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Executive Registry

66-720

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI China Coordinator

SUBJECT : Intelligence on Communist China

REFERENCE : Memorandum from DCI China Coordinator,
Same subject, dated 6 January 1966

1. The number of people in the Directorate of Intelligence who devote more than half their time to work on Communist China has not changed significantly since January 1964. This level has been maintained despite general personnel cuts of about 10 percent during the same period. Much more of the time of other intelligence officers is now being devoted to the China problem, however, in order to help meet the growing volume of urgent requirements and ad hoc demands.

2. The following table shows changes in the number of analysts employed full time on China in the last two years. A detailed breakdown by Office is attached as Tab A.

	<u>January 1964</u>	<u>January 1966</u>
NPIC		
Other		
Total DDI		

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3. Fortunately the problem has been relieved in part through the provision of 27 additional positions for work on Communist China as a supplement to the FY 1966 budget. We plan, furthermore, to review the present allocation of DDI personnel with the objective of shifting people from less urgent tasks to work on China. We are also developing programs to attract personnel well qualified for work on China so that we can realize maximum benefit from positions that become available. In doing this we must find ways of overcoming the difficulties posed by the scarcity of trained China hands and their reluctance to enter into Government service.

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4. A basic problem is that our knowledge of Communist China -- in the military, economic, and political fields -- is far less than what we know about other denied areas, such as the Soviet Union. We therefore need to supplement our analytical attack on contemporary developments with a much broader research effort to build up our store of basic information in all relevant areas of knowledge pertaining to China.

5. Tab B is a projection of the personnel which will be needed by the Directorate of Intelligence to meet minimum requirements on China through 1970. As you know, the long-term personnel requirements for NPIC are among the matters now under intensive study by the Joint Imagery Interpretation Review Group. I prefer, therefore, not to submit a formal projection of NPIC's personnel requirements on China until I have had an opportunity to review the matter thoroughly and consider the findings of the JIIRG study. We are now developing our budget needs for 1968 and supplemental needs for 1967, and China requirements will be emphasized in both.

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachments

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